

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A retention system for a hand tool combination
2 having a ~~primary tool~~ an axe and a secondary tool, comprising:
3 a first magnet having a first polarity coupled to the axe ~~primary tool~~;
4 a second magnet having a second polarity coupled to the secondary
5 tool;
6 wherein the first polarity and the second polarity are configured for
7 attraction by a magnetic force;
8 so that the secondary tool is retained in connection with the axe
9 ~~primary tool~~.
- 1 2. (Currently Amended) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the
2 first magnet is fixed to the axe ~~primary tool~~.
- 1 3. (Previously Presented) The retention system of Claim 2 wherein the
2 second magnet is fixed to the secondary tool.
- 1 4. (Previously Presented) The retention system of Claim 3 wherein the
2 first magnet has one of a positive polarity and a negative polarity and the second
3 magnet has the other of the positive polarity and the negative polarity.
- 1 5. (Currently Amended) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the
2 first magnet is substantially aligned with the second magnet when the secondary tool
3 is retained in a stowed position within a receptacle of the axe ~~primary tool~~.
- 1 6. (Currently Amended) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein at least
2 one of the first magnet and the second magnet comprises a rare earth magnet ~~the~~
3 ~~primary tool is an axe~~.

1 7. (Currently Amended) The retention system of ~~Claim 6~~ Claim 1
2 wherein the secondary tool is one of a knife and a saw.

1 8. (Withdrawn) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the first magnet
2 is at least partially offset from the second magnet.

1 9. (Withdrawn) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the offset is
2 sufficient to maintain a magnetic attraction to draw the secondary tool toward a
3 stowed position in connection with the primary tool.

1 10. (Currently Amended) A combination hand tool having an axe a
2 ~~primary hand tool~~ configured for storage of a secondary hand tool therein, the
3 combination hand tool comprising:
4 a receptacle formed within an elongated handle ~~member~~ of the axe
5 ~~primary hand tool~~;
6 a first magnet having a first polarity coupled to the axe ~~primary hand~~
7 ~~tool~~;
8 a second magnet having a second polarity opposite the first polarity
9 and coupled to the secondary hand tool and configured to operably engage the first
10 magnet;
11 ~~so that the secondary hand tool is retained~~ being retainable within the
12 receptacle by a magnetic force.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein
2 ~~the primary hand tool is an axe and~~ the secondary hand tool is selected from the group
3 consisting of a camping gear item, a survival gear item, a hiking gear item, and a
4 fishing gear item.

1 12. (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the first
2 magnetic member is coupled to an actuatable member configured to alternate a
3 polarity of the first magnetic member for interfacing with the second magnetic
4 member.

1 13. (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 12 wherein the
2 actuatable member is a thumbwheel.

1 14. (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the first
2 magnetic member and the second magnetic member are operable to at least partially
3 withdraw the second hand tool from the receptacle.

1 15. (Original) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the
2 magnetic force is a minimum of approximately 4000 gauss.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein
2 the first magnet is fixed to the axe ~~primary hand tool~~ and the second magnet is fixed
3 to the secondary hand tool.

1 17. (Currently Amended) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein
2 the first magnet and the second magnet are configured in substantial alignment when
3 the secondary hand tool is retained within the axe ~~primary hand tool~~.

1 18. (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the first
2 magnet and the second magnet are configured in at least a partially offset relationship
3 when the secondary hand tool is retained within the primary hand tool.

1 19. (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 12 wherein the
2 actuatable member is configured for rotational movement.

1 20. (Currently Amended) A system for storing ~~a first~~ an object in
2 connection with an axe ~~a second object~~, comprising:
3 ~~a first retainer having~~ a first magnet with a first polarity coupled to the
4 ~~first~~ object;
5 ~~a second retainer having~~ a second magnet with a second polarity
6 coupled to the axe, the second magnet ~~second object~~ and configured to attract the first
7 ~~retainer~~ magnet by a magnetic attraction;
8 ~~so that the first retainer~~ magnet and the second magnet ~~retainer~~ are
9 being operable to retain the ~~second~~ object in connection with the axe ~~first object~~ until
10 the ~~second~~ object is removed by overcoming the magnetic attraction;
11 wherein the object is selected from the group consisting of a knife, a
12 saw, a cooking utensil, a compartment, a camping gear item, a hunting gear item, a
13 fishing gear item and a survival gear item.

1 21. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 20 wherein the ~~first~~ object
2 is retainable at least partially within the axe ~~a hand tool~~.

1 22. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 20 wherein the first retainer is
2 configured to be actuatable between a first position for retention of the second object
3 and a second position for extraction of the second object.

1 23. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 22 wherein the first magnetic
2 member and the second magnetic member are attracted in the first position.

1 24. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 23 wherein the first magnetic
2 member and the second magnetic member are repelled in the second position.

1 25. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 20 wherein the first magnetic
2 member is fixed to the first object and the second magnetic member is fixed to the
3 second object so that the first magnetic member and the second magnetic member are
4 arranged in a relationship that is at least partially offset with respect to each other.

1 26. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 20 wherein the ~~first object~~
2 axe comprises an elongated ~~member~~ handle providing a receptacle and the ~~second~~
3 object is configured for retention at least partially within the receptacle.

1 27. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 26 wherein the axe ~~first~~
2 object is a camp axe and ~~the second object is selected from the group consisting of a~~
3 ~~knife, a saw, a cooking utensil, a compartment, a camping gear item, a hunting gear~~
4 ~~item, a fishing gear item and a survival gear item.~~

1 28. (Currently Amended) In an apparatus comprising a first ~~hand~~ cutting
2 tool having a receptacle and a second ~~hand~~ cutting tool configured for storage within
3 the receptacle, the improvement comprising a retention system having a first magnet
4 with a first polarity coupled to the first ~~hand~~ cutting tool and a second magnet with a
5 second polarity coupled to the second ~~hand~~ cutting tool, where the first polarity and
6 the second polarity are configured for magnetic attraction, so that the second ~~hand~~
7 cutting tool is retained within the receptacle until removed by a user.

1 29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the ~~first~~
2 ~~hand tool comprises a~~ first cutting tool comprises an axe and the ~~second hand tool~~
3 ~~comprises a~~ second cutting tool comprises a knife.

1 30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the first
2 polarity is one of a positive polarity and a negative polarity ~~comprises~~.

1 31. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 30 wherein the first retainer is
2 configured to alternate the polarity of the first magnetic member relative to the second
3 retainer.

1 32. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 31 wherein the first magnetic
2 member is configured for rotation.

1 33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the
2 receptacle is provided in a handle of the first cutting tool ~~second retainer comprises a~~
3 ~~second magnetic member.~~

1 34. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the first retainer is
2 actuatable between a first position for retention of the second hand tool within the
3 receptacle and a second position for withdrawal of the second hand tool from the
4 receptacle.